President's Message

*David Landrey, CSI*

**Are You a CSI Advocate or a Construction Anarchist?**

"Hey, I just want my product specified."

Well, congratulations, you are well on the way to becoming an anarchist.

I had a mess on my hands last week in New York (SoHo). Project bids were being solicited for my products without any project manual or even a reference to MasterFormat. The sub-bidders were calling me to create a scope of work for three separate types of work (site-casted, pre-casted and trowel-applied cement finishes).

Normally the bid packages would have been the job of the GC or CM to separate out, but some vague notes in the drawings allowed them to punt this part of the bid to the vendor. Unbeknownst to me, I had inherited the risk of being liable for a lot more than simple product performance. I tried to separate the three specialty trades involved in the retail store construction and spent many hours going through drawings with inconsistent hatch patterns. What a disaster.

Imagine a world with no common language, no laws, no standards for right or wrong? No, this is not a John Lennon lyric. It's just plain Anarchy, or the polar opposite of an *ordered process*. Even in the rough and tumble world of nature, the seemingly random events are not really random, but guided by rules of the natural world - biology, physics, chemistry, all playing out their disciplines.

Biology uses taxonomic ranks including Domain, Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species. Of course, all the other sciences have developed time honored organizing principals, with frameworks that allow for change without undermining the established

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**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**2016 Chapter Program Topics**

**February 11, 2016**

*Joint Meeting - American Society of Professional Estimators*

**March 10, 2016**

*Joint Meeting - American Concrete Institute Washington*
rules, such as the recent additions made to the Periodic Table of Elements.

For over 1,000 years, Latin was taught to all scholars as the international language of science and as a great common bridge between doctors from around the world. The fact that it was a dead language served the medical community well to prevent the imprecision that develops in the nuance of culture and provincial language evolution. Will the lack of Latin courses being taught undermine the future of medicine and make English the default language? Time will tell.

Since it was introduced in 1963, MasterFormat, as it is now known, has been widely accepted as a standard format for organizing specifications in the United States and Canada, designed to fulfill, in the words of the original authors, "a pressing need for a national format for construction specifications."

MasterFormat 1988, 1995 and 2004 were major overhauls to keep the established rules from being trashed while allowing a framework for expansion. The transitional phases were traumatic for some at first, but eventually accepted.

**Increasing the Pace of Innovation Demands Adherence to Organization**
The pace of innovation in construction has lagged other industries far too long. I see that changing right now. Complex assemblies are being assembled, near site, on-site, off-site, and combinations of all the above. Our Tech Walk at Walters and Wolf is a perfect example of this change.

It is no longer a binary question of in-situ construction or pre-fab construction. And, as I experienced with my recent bid in New York, there’s more need than ever before for specifications and project manuals. Forgive the metaphor, but specifications, formatting, and project manuals are not some arbitrary restraints placed on construction. Rather they serve as guardrails to allow for high speed innovations in the use of new technology, better delivery models, construction means-and-methods and entirely new product innovations.

The demands for a common A/E/C language forms and helps maintain a cohesive foundation to describe product performance, code compliance, engineering requirements, sustainability metrics, manufacturer recommendations and the related sections of work.

As the systems gain complexity, each party has to observe the rules of order or it can quickly become chaos. E.g. - * See Vendor for directions.
Become an advocate for CSI and help us keep order in a complex industry. If you don't advocate for the objectives of CSI, then the specification of your product may be worthless or, even worse, a huge liability to your company.

**February Chapter Programs**

**February 11th Dinner Meeting: Cost Modeling a Project**

*Location:* Mirabella Seattle (116 Fairview Ave N, Seattle)
*Time:* Social Hour: 5:00-6:00 pm, Dinner: 6:00-6:30 pm, Program: 6:30-8:00
*Cost:* $40 members/$45 non-members/$25 students/$0 sponsored students *(after 2/8/16, prices will be an additional $10)*

Join us for a joint meeting with the local chapter of American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE). This group discussion by local ASPE speakers will explain how Cost Modeling is used to accurately predict the cost of a future project.

Come meet and chat with some of the people who may estimate your next project or your products. Ask questions about cost modeling that you have only asked yourself. Things like...How much difference does switching from curtainwall to storefront really make? Why do they always lump your product with toilet partitions? How much is estimated for temporary toilets? How are things priced that are not designed yet? How much information is really useful at Schematic Design?

Most importantly, make contacts you can talk to later when you have a real question. See you there.

**Register for the February Chapter Dinner Meeting!**

**February 11th Tech Talk: Lessons Learned and Getting the Most Out of Your Concrete**

*Location:* Mirabella Seattle, 116 Fairview Ave N
*Time:* 3:30-5:00 pm
*Cost:* $5 members, $10 non-members

Dane Buechler (Superintendent for GLY Construction) and George Lambert (Sales Representative for CalPortland Company) will present a "real world" perspective on concrete, details, and constructability. They will answer your concrete questions on everything from mix design to architectural finishing. Learn why square corners become so expensive and why performance specifications will often result in a better final product. Dane will also present lessons learned from his various projects, which have ranged from an extremely high-end custom home to a biomedical research facility to a flagship store conveniently located around the corner from the Mirabella. Bring your questions!

**Register for the February Tech Talk!**
Chapter Meeting Quick Pitches

There are presently openings for 10-minute Quick Pitches for our February to June Chapter meetings. The cost is $150. Any member or
non-member can present. If interested, contact Dick Owen for questions or to reserve your date. This is a great opportunity to introduce our Chapter members to you, your products, or services.

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ProSpec: Don't Miss It!

Here are things you might say when someone asks why you didn't attend ProSpec - "Sorry we missed it but heard it was wonderful. I am looking forward to seeing pictures. Let's do business later."

There are only a few remaining sponsorships and exhibits, so if you have been considering participating you should hurry! However, if you are coming you will be rewarded with an awesome dinner and appetizers, opportunity to network with colleagues and professionals, and the privilege to hear from industry greats.

Mr. Chris Hellstern with Miller Hull Partnership is our seminar speaker. A Living Future Accredited professional, Chris has spoken at conferences across the country, published several articles, and mentors local student groups about sustainable practices. His current work is Living Building Challenge projects.

Ms. Toshiko Mori, the Robert P. Hubbard Professor in the Practice of Architecture at Harvard University Graduate School of Design, is our keynote speaker. She is the founder of VisionArc, a think-tank promoting global dialogue for a sustainable future and one of the founders of Paracoustica a nonprofit promoting music in underserved communities.

Hope to see you there!
The Puget Sound Chapter CSI has a separate organization, the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation, established in 2007, whose purpose is to provide scholarships, fellowships, and grants to promote educational programs serving the interest of the Puget Sound Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute, the construction industry, and related endeavors, which support the objectives of CSI. The Foundation is administered by a volunteer board composed of willing past presidents of the Puget Sound Chapter. Brad Williamson is the current president of the Foundation Board. Any individual or organization can contribute tax deductible donations to the Foundation by sending a check made out to the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation and mailing to the Puget Sound Chapter office: 2150 N. 107th St., Suite 205, Seattle, WA 98133-9009, Phone: (206) 382-3393 (The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization). Donations in the past have been used for scholarship awards to candidates selected on the basis of recommendations by the Foundation Board and by Chapter members. The Foundation is always interested in your fund raising ideas and financial support to promote the Foundations objectives.
New, Renewed, and Lapsed Members

The following lists are new, renewed, and lapsed members of Puget Sound Chapter CSI for the month of December 2015. Be sure to say hi and welcome our new members when you see them. If you see a friend's name on the lapsed list, call them to let them know they need to renew. If you see yourself on the lapsed list, renew today! To check your membership status, log into your Institute CSI Portal.

**New Members**
None

**Renewed Members**
- Robert Temple, Hafele America Co., 4 years
- Chris Rogstad, Window Tech, Inc., 29 years
- Bob Kenworthy, Auburn School District #408, 30 years
- Walt Suman, TekTerior Systems, 31 years
- Randy Tessman, Benjamin Moore Paints, 21 years
- Dennis Dean Jr., KPG, Inc., 8 years
- Doug Norem, CEMEX, 22 years
- Mike Murphey, Behr Paint, 10 years
- James Harrison, MEP Consultant, 30 years
- Russell Harrison, Window Tech, Inc., 2 years
- Mark Schneider, CSAF LLC, 19 years
- Dale Garrett, Contract Hardware, Inc., 25 years
- Joel Niemi, 33 years

**Lapsed Members**
- Vern Wigen Jr., DLR Group
- Marjorie Chang Fuller, Hoffman Construction
- Douglas Holderman, Assa Alboy DSS
- Joe Russo, Malarkey Roofing Products
- David Axt, Axt Consulting LLC
- Troy Barrows, Nor-Pac Seating Company Inc.
- Colleen Cameron, Owens Corning
- J. Patrick Mitchell, J. Patrick Mitchell Architect
- Mark Morden, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.
- Ron Ogden, R.J. Ogden Associates, Inc.
- Benjamin Ohmart, SOLARC Engineering and Energy+Architectural Consulting
- Debin Schliesman, Cite | Specific
- Matt Staublin, MG2

**Due to Renew Next Month**
- Curt Anderson, Anderson Consulting
- Melissa Balestri, ZGF Architects, LLP
- Robert Bechtel, Bechtel Ind. Coating & Supply
January Events Recap

Chapter Dinner Meeting

By Brian Henry, CCS
Jennifer Frey, the Sustainability Program Manager for Sellen, presented on the topic of integrating sustainability into the specifications. Her presentation focused on a holistic approach and fundamental understanding of LEED requirements and what is necessary in project specifications to achieve desired results. The presentation had excellent examples of projects and illustrated methods to manage risk, connect the dots on missing details, and eliminate near misses that could make or break the project's ability to be certified at the appropriate level.

**Tech Walk Recap**  
*By Melissa Balestri, CCS*

Our technical walk of the Walters & Wolf fabrication facility in Mukilteo was one of our best attended events of the year. We started with a presentation by Chief Operating Officer, Tom Black, where we learned about the fabrication and installation process, manufacturing and fabrication timelines, design process, and the importance of early involvement in a project. We then split into four smaller groups so our tour guides Pat Mezzulo, Tony Parker, Terry deJager, and Tracy Robbins could take us on a personalized tour of the facility. While answering our many questions, they showed us everything from large
mockups to individual custom extrusions, fabricating to packaging stations, and incoming stockpiles to outgoing materials packaged in reusable materials. A lucky few even saw assemblies for their own projects making their way through the facility. Tom Black stuck around afterward to informally talk about the future of the industry and their thought process when deciding which projects to take. Many thanks to the Walters & Wolf team as well as all our attendees.

Key Clauses of the General Conditions; Complementarity

By Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CSC

Although it didn’t seem like it at the time, one of the best parts of my CSI chapter’s certification classes was reading the A201 - not selectively, but the whole thing, beginning to end. Being the heart of the construction contract, anyone who works on a project should know what's in it. I can't quote every part of it, but it's familiar enough that I can find what I'm looking for fairly quickly. I don't deal with much of it, e.g., claims and time requirements, but there are a few parts that I find of particular interest.

Read more >>
Affiliate Events
2016 West Region & NW Region CSI Conference
When: May 18-22, 2016
Where: Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort, Incline Village, NV

Learn more and register!
About CSI

CSI is a national association of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors, facility managers, product representatives, manufacturers, owners and others who are experts in building construction and the materials used therein. They are dedicated to improving the communication of construction information through:

• A diversified membership base of allied professionals involved in the creation and management of the built environment. Join us.
• Continuous development and transformation of standards and formats.
• Education and certification of professionals to improve project delivery processes.
• Creation of practice tools to assist users throughout the facility life-cycle. Join a CSI Practice Group.

CSI is governed by a Board of Directors, a nationally elected body that provides long-range strategic leadership. The Board is composed of nationally elected CSI officers, including the president, president-elect, two vice presidents, the secretary, and the treasurer; elected representatives (directors) from each of CSI's 10 regions; and a director at large. CSI's executive director/CEO is a corporate officer.

For more information about or to join CSI, visit www.csinet.org/joincsi, or call 800-689-2900.